

Amendments to the Claims

1 – 25 (cancelled)

26. (new) A clothing rack for organizing and storing clothing comprising:
a base;
a post supported on the base;
a plurality of latch mechanisms each disposed within a corresponding opening in the post, wherein each latch mechanism includes a resilient latch mechanism comprising: a horizontally extending rod adapted for vertical displacement, a fixed bracket disposed vertically above said rod, a resilient pair of springs each having a first end attached to the fixed bracket and a second end attached to said rod, and at least one guide track, wherein the horizontally extending rod is slidably received in the at least one guide track; and
a plurality of extending arms pivotally connected to the post and comprising a plurality of attachment members; each of said arms movable between a first substantially horizontal position to provide access to clothing items stored thereon and a second substantially vertical position to provide a compact arrangement to minimize the space required for storing and organizing the clothing, each arm including a securable upturned distal end adapted to be inserted into an opening in the post and secured thereto by one of said latch mechanisms when the arm is in the compact arrangement to provide support for the clothing items;
wherein each of said upturned distal ends urges a respective horizontal rod in a downward direction when said arms transition between said first and second positions, and each resilient pair of springs urges said rod upward to engage the distal end of a respective arm and maintain said arm in said second position;
and
a plurality of latch release mechanisms, wherein each latch release mechanism is attached to a latch release bracket, and wherein each latch release bracket is

attached to a respective one of said horizontally extending rods so that when one of said latch release mechanism is pulled vertically downward, a corresponding horizontally extending rod disengages a corresponding upturned distal end of one of said extending arms, allowing said arm to transition from said second position to said first position.